John R Stockwell and the CIA (PART III) (1979) - 07 of 13

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¤ Alternative Views

48. (C) JOHN STOCKWELL AND THE CIA (PART III)
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    John R. Stockwell introduces the documentary made about him by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Saul Landau. The movie has been shown in several film festivals around the world and on TV in many countries; but the U.S. networks, including PBS, refused to show it. Consequently, our showing provides its American premiere. Next, we look at segments of three weeks' coverage by the TV networks of the situation concerning the Russian troops in Cuba, interspersed with John's comments. Finally, John gives his evaluation of Cuba, having recently visited there three times, and his arguments against the CIA. The program was designated "tonight's highlight" by the Austin American-Statesman and evoked much discussion.

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    Recorded October, 1979

    This movie is part of the collection: Alternative Views

    Producer: Frank Morrow
    Production Company: Alternative Information Network
    Audio/Visual: sound, color
    Language: English

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elegance data we have including Errol aerial and satellite photography to conclusively show that there are Russian combat troops in Cuba each senator pointed out that Gromyko was involved in another Cuban dispute the 1962 missile crisis I think the the president really has to be firm in this and just remind American people that this is the same mr. Gromyko who lied about missiles he was caught red-handed and I regret that mr. Gromyko has seen fit to state a bald-faced lie that's what it is grim ecos intervention has had a chilling effect on the strategic arms treaty with the Soviets a growing number of senators including the man in control of the treaty Foreign Relations chairman Frank church say that unless the president can soon certify that the Russian combat forces have been dismantled the salt treaty will be put on ice it was not a good day

today for the United States at the United Nations salute lion called it like it was he said that they were there he said they were not assault troops but they were there for training and certainly we have troops all over the world that are there to help install our entrain and use our military equipment the hardware we've installed we had for many years this huge unit in in Addis Ababa we have of course 5,000 troops on the Soviet border in Turkey these troops have no capability of invading Russia for heaven's sake but they are combat troops they've all been trained in how to shoot rifles and what not and I would say that the only two people i saw in there whoo-hoo seemed to be candidly called three i guess calling it like it was was Senator Byrd who said it was a non crisis Gromyko it appeared to me called it like it was said you're making something out of nothing for your own

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something out of nothing for your own purposes and then Fidel Castro also calling it like it was and and Andrew Young also and Andrew Young yes aqui nosotros llamamos central instruction which we call training center tank kuba the acedia society has been in Cuba for the past 17 years SI intellectual maleta now then that military facility where criada al final de la crisi doctoral Demi no me siento session was established at the end of the october crisis amino a centos say sentido in 1962 conforme le para todo lo hoc weirdo in conformity with the spirit of the relation you sign on october of that year y dentro del estado quotable a sido como consecuencia de accretion and within the status school that was set up as a result of the october crisis here why has he brought this problem guy right now to create a situation ok let you like a think leashes Childre correct that purchase situation is in a crisis Nala rather a chapel st not given the right to place piece into a crisis GGO pionship Electra shield the cart and I will deal with the current that Carter's behavior concerning your problem as evil destiny has been dishonest hasee doing since it has been on sincere as hidden Mora has been a moral yes tonga eundel opinion America mundial sieving the world public opinion yellow pinion pulicat ocean and the US public opinion Andrew Young bowed out as a diplomat speaking his mind as usual last night he spoke to 5,000 blacks and at a time when the administration has been saying it's gravely concerned over those Soviet combat troops in Cuba young ridiculed the threat if the Russians made a move against us our defenses are strong enough to ignore and wipe out and obliterate some 3,000 Cubans and I mean Russians and Cuba what the hell can they

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Russians and Cuba what the hell can they do to the United States of America that is a totally irrelevant political issue that has nothing to do with the national security of this nation more relevant Young said is inflation and unemployment more of a threat than troops in Cuba then young philosophized about what he thinks is wrong with foreign policy it's not some amorphous strategic concept decided by some folk that ain't never fought no wars don't know nothing about suffering never been poor and essentially and isolate themselves in some ivory tower writing papers and theorizing to each other those are the folks those essentially of a folk that have created the mess that the world is now in Andruw Young's beautiful comment and the other people well John don't you think that the network news is irresponsible in failing to give this broader context for the story and leaving out the fact that this was a story based on leaks that really gave no new information in the way they played this up night after night and gave all these hawks such a pervasive coverage you know our enemies overseas we talked about coming a censorship of the press and the Communists talk about our censorship of the press or our press working for the government and as we sit here we find this an incredible charge from from the Communists because we know that we have freedom of the press you can go out and start a newspaper with a mimeograph machine and print more or less what you want and you probably won't be eliminated the next day by the FBI although that has been known to happen but the fact is that while you can't claim plausibly and I wouldn't bet

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can't claim plausibly and I wouldn't bet the New York Times or The Washington Post our time magazine or Newsweek the biggies are actually controlled by the administration not in the sense of the administration calling them up and saying here's our line on this issue everybody do it the press plays directly into the hen of the administration it's the voice of a given administration the press has gotten us into incredible situations in the world devastating situations in the world such as the Vietnam War if if the Vietnam War if the press had been conscientious in nailing the administration on its lies and distortions during the Vietnam War during the build-up of the Vietnam War it never would have happened if they had balked then if they had had interviews with people and then had someone come on afterwards saying unfortunately that all of that's untrue see the press tries it claims it presents the facts and facts are if President Carter or scoop Jackson her Goldwater someone makes a speech that is a fact that he made that speech and said those words now the fact that all those words were false is never clarified to the public so the administration can use the press to put out whatever it wants to on a given situation and the press will play along for the sense of drama as they say to sell newspapers so you have crises like this that could never have existed if the press had nailed them at the outset and said this is nonsense it's a non crisis there's another irony here in that during this very period the Russians went to East Germany in a very big flourish they said they were going to take 20,000 Russian troops out of East Germany and we're going to withdraw a lot of their forces from Central Europe and this was hardly covered there were only seconds of coverage whereas this seemed to be a major change in Soviet policy and a potential FRA in

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Soviet policy and a potential FRA in Europe which could be much more important than this non event in Cuba and yet this was barely mentioned this is how the press can create some stories and how they don't even cover you've got to you've got to remember and this is why I titled my book in search of enemies it's necessary to our system of government to have people to oppose and people to hate if you'll look for example i believe it was yesterday present Carter just finished a small political swing he made repeated statements about Cuba Cuba's aggressive posture Cuba's military the Cuba being the most militarized country in the world etc surely we have things that are more important than Cuba to this nation right now the collapsing economy the galloping inflation all of the various minority groups that are still suffering persecution in this country he nevertheless he focuses on Cuba and makes them into an enemy which they have no desire to be so that we've got somebody to hate to oppose so that we've got an excuse to thump her chest and build up our military machine and he's doing this obviously as a major element in his presidential campaign searching for enemies looking for people that don't want to fight us that we need to have somebody to oppose I think there's also kind of a long range thing that they're looking forward to hear also you read some books and see some statements by the high muckety-mucks and they complain that the Vietnam War has had such a devastating effect on public opinion that they can't wheel and deal around the world now like they used to because public opinion would not allow it people would hit the streets again so I think this is part of an overall policy of trying to whip up the cold

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